

The color of the fully adult *Ophibolus rhombomaculatus* Holbrook.

In a recent contribution to this publication (p. 36) Mr. Gerrit S. Miller, Jr. has given a description of a large specimen (♂ , 1090 mm. in length) of *Ophibolus rhombomaculatus* which was very differently marked from younger specimens, and which, he was led to believe exhibited the normal coloration of the fully adult of this species. I am inclined to think that Mr. Miller was in error in this, as I have had in my possession several large individuals of this species which were marked much like younger specimens.

On March 3d of the present year, I had brought to me a very large specimen of *Ophibolus rhombomaculatus*, 1150 mm. in length, which agrees perfectly with medium sized specimens in its color pattern; the colors are perhaps considerably less bright, but there is no indication of the uniform dorsal surface, or the longitudinal lateral stripe mentioned by Mr. Miller. On the body there are forty-five brown spots in a dorsal series extending from a short distance behind the head to the base of the tail. On the tail there are nine such spots. On each side of the body there is an indistinct series of about 42 smaller spots, mostly alternating with those on the back. The dorsal spots are of a warm brown color, more or less distinctly margined with blackish; they extend along about three scales and across about ten. The lateral spots are less distinct and include from one to three scales. The elongate spots behind the head are quite indistinct, but may be seen in certain lights. The belly is of a satiny, shining white anteriorly, becoming tinged with yellowish posteriorly, almost light orange for some distance in front of the vent. This last item is of especial interest in that, in Holbrook's description the color of the belly is given as salmon colored, more or less bright, a character which has never been observed in our northern specimens.—*W. P. Hay.*